

S. African troops raid Angola, kill 61

WINDHOEK, Namibia (South West Africa) (R) — South African-led security forces have killed 61 Namibian nationalists guerrillas and several Angolan government troops in a raid deep inside southern Angola, an official statement said Monday. Defence headquarters in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, said two of its men were killed Sunday during the battle near the town of Mongua, 75 kilometres across Namibia's border with Angola. The statement did not say how many Angolans died in the fighting, which appeared to be one of the biggest clashes recently between South Africans and Angolans. The 61 dead were members of the South West Africa Peoples Organisation (SWAPO), which has been engaged in a guerrilla war for Namibian independence over the past 20 years.

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Firemen fight with burning tanker

FLUSHING, Netherlands (R) — A Greek tanker loaded with gasoline was Monday burning fiercely and leaking blazing fuel as tugs towed it north across the busy channel and firemen mounted a foam attack, salvage experts said. The 18,204-tonne Olympic Dream was in collision with the Liberian-registered bulk carrier August Thyssen in fog outside this small southern Dutch port Sunday as the tanker slipped anchor to head for the Belgian town of Ghent. Daniel Kaaebeek, of the salvage firm Smit Tak, told reporters by radio telephone from the scene that the fire, in one of the tanker's 23 compartments of unleaded gasoline, was under control but burning intensely. Smit Tak spokesman Martin Luenwiler said firemen in flame-proof suits had started a three-hour foam assault around 1400 GMT to try to smother the flames.

King receives cable from Assad

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received a cable from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad who was passing over Jordanian air space en route to Kuwait. In his cable President Assad wished King Hussein happiness and good health and the Jordanian people further progress and prosperity.

Camps war reportedly caused 4,000 casualties

ABU DHABI (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was quoted Monday as saying 4,000 people have been killed or wounded in the so-called "camps war" in Lebanon between Palestinian forces and Shi'ite Amal militiamen. He told the United Arab Emirates daily Al Ittihad in an interview that the fighting had also made 80,000 Palestinians homeless and that four refugee camps in the Tyre area were wiped out. Mr. Arafat said the PLO was not planning to return to its leadership to Lebanon but added: "We insist on reopening the organization's offices in Beirut which are now occupied by the Amal militia and the Syrian intelligence."

PLO strength in Lebanon increasing, Israelis say

TEL AVIV (R) — The strength of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in Lebanon is again approaching the level preceding Israel's 1982 invasion, a senior Israeli naval officer said Monday. The officer, identified only as Captain Yod, told Israel radio the mainline PLO Fatah organisation "had broadened its forces in Lebanon since 1984 and today was beginning to approach its situation before the war." Israel invaded Lebanon with the declared aim of driving Palestinian fighters from its northern border.

Reagan to visit Italy in June

ROME (R) — President Ronald Reagan will make an official visit to Italy in June immediately before a summit of the group of seven Western industrialised countries in Venice, diplomatic sources said Monday. They said exact details of the visit were not yet known but it was likely to begin around June 3.

IRA gunmen kill British officer

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — The Irish Republican Army (IRA) shot and killed a part-time soldier, police said Monday, in the second attack in 24 hours on members of the local Ulster Defence Regiment. Maj. George Shaw, 57, who holds a civilian job with the Defence Ministry, was gunned down by at least two assailants as he walked to work in Dungannon, 65 Kilometres west of Belfast, police said.

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Fifth Islamic summit begins in Kuwait

Contacts underway to hold unofficial Arab summit

By Lamis K. Andoni
in Kuwait



His Majesty King Hussein is met by Kuwaiti Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah upon King Hussein's arrival in Kuwait Monday

King meets leaders

KUWAIT (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein held several meetings with Arab leaders following his arrival in Kuwait for the fifth Islamic Summit Conference.

The King received in his residence Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan, Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat and PLO executive committee members, and United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The King's meeting with Mr. Arafat was the first in a year when Jordan announced the termination of political coordination with the PLO leadership.

The meeting took place shortly before the opening of the Islamic summit.

Mr. Arafat had a separate

(Continued on page 2)

meeting with President Mubarak.

The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) was quoted as saying that during the meeting, the King and Mr. Arafat discussed relations between Jordan and the PLO, the camps war in Lebanon and the Iran-Iraq war.

The King is accompanied in Kuwait by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

Upon arrival at the airport, King Hussein was received by the Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, the Kuwaiti crown prince and prime minister, chief of the Kuwaiti National Guard, cabinet members and high ranking Kuwaiti officials.

Also receiving King Hussein were Mr. Masri and Jordan's

delegation to the summit to announce its demand for disbanding the committee, the sources said.

The Islamic committee is headed by Gabon president and includes several member countries of the OIC.

Iraq sees no point in continuing peace efforts with Iran, and Baghdad feels that the end of the war could only be determined on the battlefield, the sources said. Iraq made its position clear to members of the committee (during its Monday morning's meeting) and the Iraqi delegation is going to announce Iraq's decision to the OIC leaders today, the sources added.

Iraq wants OIC committee disbanded

From Lamis Andoni

IRAQ has informed members of the OIC goodwill committee, which has been trying mediation with Iran to end the Gulf war, that Baghdad no longer believed in the usefulness of the committee and that it was demanding its disbanding, Arab informed sources told the Jordan Times on Monday.

The sources said the committee reached deadlock at a meeting it held on Monday morning, before the opening of the summit, and Iraq informed its members that it no longer needed its services to mediate an end to the war with Iraq. The Iraqi

Australian premier arrives in Israel after 3-day visit to Jordan

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke arrived in Israel Monday and said he wanted to discuss Middle East peace with leaders of the Jewish state.

"I trust that we will talk about the issue which is of overwhelming importance... securing into the future peace for Israel and peace for this region," Mr. Hawke said.

"I know that we will be able to have most useful discussions on that matter," he added.

Mr. Hawke, on the first visit to Israel by an Australian Prime Minister, was likely to hear conflicting official versions of where the Jewish state stands on an international peace conference on the Middle East, Israeli officials said.

Mr. Hawke said in Amman on Sunday he favoured holding such a conference.

Asked if Mr. Hawke would accept as Israel's position the view of right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir or the Labour Party leader, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, a senior Israeli official replied: "Your guess is as good as mine."

Shamir, who welcomed Mr. Hawke when he arrived from Jordan after a brief stopover in Cyprus, opposes a peace conference, favouring instead direct talks with Arab states.

Peres supports a peace conference, but unlike Mr. Hawke, wants to keep the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) outside the peace process.

Earlier Monday, Mr. Hawke ended a three-day official visit to Jordan by stressing the need for continued efforts for arriving at a just and durable solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said that his talks with Jordanian officials were marked by a constructive atmosphere and cooperation and covered all aspects of the problems in the Middle East region.

Australian-Jordanian relations and other related topics.

Mr. Hawke voiced appreciation to His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and the Jordanian people and government for the hospitality accorded to the Australian delegation during the visit, and expressed hope that bilateral cooperation will be bolstered in the future.

"The visit offered me a chance to acquaint myself with the Middle

Kohl coalition back in power with reduced majority

TEL AVIV (R) — West Germany's political parties Monday analysed the results of a general election which returned Chancellor Helmut Kohl's coalition to power with a reduced majority but saw a slum in support for his own Christian Democrats.

The leaders of the major parties were holding meetings to discuss strategy following Sunday's poll, which produced a major shift to the Liberal Free Democrats (FDP) within Kohl's three-party administration.

Kohl's Christian Democrats and their Bavarian Christian Social Union sister party won 44.3 per cent of the vote, enough to form another government with the FDP, whose share of the vote increased to 9.1 per cent from 7.0 per cent four years ago.

"Kohl stays chancellor — FDP super" screamed the headline of Bild, West Germany's most popular tabloid daily.

"Kohl's party has suffered its worst electoral setback since 1953," Bild commented.

"(Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich) Genscher's FDP

is the real winner of this election. Kohl will remain as chancellor but he will not have it as easy as before," Bild said, hinting at likely FDP demands for greater representation in the government.

The Liberal Frankfurter Rundschau described the election results as a "dampener for the right."

Referring to election campaign squabbling between the CSU's right-wing leader Franz Josef Strauss and Mr. Genscher, the paper commented: "If Franz Josef Strauss did not exist the FDP would have to invent him."

The Rundschau, in its analysis of the vote, concluded that many people had voted for the liberal FDP to ensure that Strauss did not increase his influence within the coalition.

"Clear victory for the coalition — in spite of losses for the Union (CDU and CSU)," read the headline of the conservative daily Die Welt.

"Many people did not want the CDU/CSU to get any stronger, many others were shocked by the scrapping between Strauss and the

East problems, mainly the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Gulf war, and I am convinced that more efforts should be made for arriving at a lasting solution," Mr. Hawke said in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Mr. Hawke said he extended an invitation to His Majesty King Hussein to visit Australia and the King accepted the invitation, but a date for it will be fixed sometime later.

Mr. Hawke and his delegation were accorded an official farewell ceremony at Amman airport with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Cabinet members and senior officials attending.

Also present were heads of diplomatic missions and Australia's ambassador to Jordan Terry Goggin.

On Sunday evening, the Australian ambassador held a reception at the Marriott Hotel on the occasion of Mr. Hawke's visit. The reception was attended by Prime Minister Rifai, Cabinet ministers, senior Jordanian officials, members of the diplomatic corps in Jordan, the local and international press as well as the delegation accompanying Mr. Hawke.

Mr. Hawke voiced appreciation to His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and the Jordanian people and government for the hospitality accorded to the Australian delegation during the visit, and expressed hope that bilateral cooperation will be bolstered in the future.

"The visit offered me a chance to acquaint myself with the Middle

BONN, West Germany (AP) — Sunday's West German election.

Results show the percentage of the vote that each party received and the corresponding number of seats in parliament. The results from the last national election, in 1983, are in parentheses.

— CDU-CSU, 44.3 per cent, 223 seats (48.5 per cent - 244 seats)

— SPD, 37.0 per cent, 186 seats (38.2 - 193 seats)

— FDP, 9.1 per cent, 46 seats (7.0 - 34 seats)

— Greens, 8.3 per cent, 42 seats (5.6 - 27 seats)

— Others, 1.3 per cent, no seats

Under West Germany's complicated election laws, the size of the parliament can vary slightly because of the voting formulas. The new parliament will have 497 seats.

Reagan urged to consider retaliation against kidnappers

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan should consider military retaliation for the abduction of Americans in the Middle East if the kidnappers are linked to foreign governments, top U.S. policy experts say.

The Democratic chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said Sunday that a tough U.S. response would be justified if it was proved that Syria or Iran were involved in the kidnappings of four professors, three of them Americans, in Beirut on Saturday.

Democratic Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island said the situation was more complex and tenser because there had been a threat to kill an American hostage unless a man arrested in West Germany on suspicion of hijacking a U.S. airliner were freed.

"There is not much he can do. I don't envy the position of the president," Sen. Pell said in a television interview.

But he said that if it could be established the kidnappers had the support of foreign governments "we would give grounds for a military response."

White House spokesman Dale Petroskey said Mr. Reagan was being kept informed of the latest

developments and repeated a U.S. demand for the release of all the hostages.

Responsibility for the hostages' safety belonged to their captors, Mr. Petroskey said.

The kidnappers on the campus of Beirut University College of the three Americans and a fourth professor who is Indian and resident status in the United States brought to eight the total number of Americans being held hostage.

The United States bombed Libyan cities last year after it claimed that Col. Muammar Qaddafi played a role in attacks against U.S. citizens in other countries.

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, also interviewed on television, said there were strong indications that Syria or Iran were involved in the latest kidnappings.

He also said the decision to sell arms secretly to Iran while the United States condemned dealings with countries it accused of

helping terrorists weakened the U.S. position in the Middle East.

"It has led to confusion of what our policy is," Dr. Kissinger said.

He added that he did not favour negotiations for hostages as recommended by Secretary of State George Shultz.

He agreed that military retaliation, such as deployment of the U.S. Delta Force of specially-trained anti-terrorist troops, would be justified if the identities of the kidnappers or their backers could be ascertained.

"We should warn Iran and Syria that we will take measures against them, beginning with economic sanctions, but not stopping at military action," Dr. Kissinger said.

He said it was not possible for the kidnappers to have occurred "without the knowledge of the Syrians," who have forces in Lebanon.

Dr. Kissinger said Iran demonstrated its ties to the kidnappers when it offered to have U.S. hostages released in exchange for the opportunity to buy U.S. arms to wage against Iraq.

But Sen. Pell said the evidence was not clear yet that Iran and Syria were connected to those responsible for the latest kidnapping.

Mr. Reagan on Saturday expressed "deep concern" about the fate of the latest Americans taken captive.

It was Mr. Reagan's concern over the hostages taken earlier that was the main motivation for the decision to sell arms to Iran rather than a desire to make contact with moderates in Tehran, according to a report Sunday in the Washington Post.

The Post said notes obtained by the Senate Intelligence Committee quoted Marine Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the former National Security Council (NSC) aide, as saying that Mr. Reagan focused on the fate of the hostages in discussions with him and former NSC chief Robert McFarlane.

Asked if Washington had requested the prisoners release, he said: "I would like to affirm that no such request was made and we would reject any such request because this affair is a Kuwaiti affair only."

The newspaper said the committee staff had other evidence, including notes from NSC meetings, indicating that Mr. Reagan's advisers were thinking of the possibility in larger terms, but the president was not.

It said that whenever he and Mr. McFarlane stressed the geopolitical aspects of the plan to sell arms to Iran, Mr. Reagan turned the discussion back to the hostages.

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He was speaking hours before the opening of an Islamic summit meeting in Kuwait, where 17 Arab guerrillas were jailed following bombings in December 1983 directed at the French and U.S. embassies, and Kuwaiti government installations.

The underground pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad (holy war) group, which said it held two Americans and two Frenchmen kidnapped in Beirut, last year offered to trade hostages for the prisoners.

In the latest kidnap incident in Beirut, three American professors and an Indian were seized on Friday. Christian Voice of Lebanon said a group calling itself the "Organisation of the Oppressed of the World" had claimed responsibility.

Islamic Jihad, which claimed responsibility for a failed car bomb assassination attempt in May 1983 on Kuwait's emir, and another pro-Iranian group have threatened to disrupt the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit to be attended by more than 30 leaders.

Meanwhile, a group that claimed responsibility for fires at oil installations and a bomb blast in Kuwait last week, threatened Monday to attack air traffic into the emirate.

"We hope this meeting will pave the road for clearing the atmosphere between Jordanians and Palestinians and provide a first step towards building an Arab base to face the challenges posed by American-Israeli intransigence," the newspaper wrote.

Al Fajr, which expresses the opinions of Western-influenced supporters of the PLO, said solutions to the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli war should be the main concerns.

"We call on all Arab and Muslim leaders meeting in Kuwait to reach conclusive resolutions to ease injustice and end the destructive wars against Palestinian camps," it wrote in an editorial.

Al Shabab, which supports leftists inside the mainline PLO, reiterated a PLO call for an Islamic peace force to intervene in the Gulf war and stop fighting between Palestinians and Lebanese militiamen in refugee camps.

A reconciliation between Jordan and the PLO would dash Israeli hopes of isolating the PLO. Israel refuses to negotiate with the PLO.

Al Quds, a traditionally pro-Jordanian newspaper which

Shamir hopes Islamic summit will call for peace with Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Monday he hoped the Islamic summit in Kuwait this week would bring Arab-Israeli peace closer, and Palestinians called on conference participants to ease their plight.

"It is possible today to express the hope the Islamic summit this time will call for peace even with Israel," Shamir said on armed forces radio.

Israeli government analysts said the 46-member summit was likely to focus on the Iran-Iraq conflict.

They said behind-the-scenes meetings of Arab leaders would have more impact on the Arab-Israeli peace process than official declarations, expected to condemn Israel as the past.

Palestinian newspapers in Arab East Jerusalem expressed hope the summit would ease tensions between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Jordan and end fighting in Lebanese refugee camps.

A reconciliation between Jordan and the PLO would dash Israeli hopes of isolating the PLO. Israel refuses to negotiate with the PLO.

Al Quds, a traditionally pro-Jordanian newspaper which

now reflects Palestinian nationalist views, said an expected meeting between King Hussein and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat could help reconcile differences over the peace process.

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Senegal may host 6th Islamic summit

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Home news

Joint industry company okays factory purchases

AMMAN (J.T.) — The joint Jordanian-Iraqi Industry Company (JIC) board on Monday endorsed a set of regulations and principles for the purchase of a tomato paste processing plant and a vegetable picking company.

The company's board of directors, which opened meetings in Amman on Sunday, also reviewed measures to enable the joint company to carry out operations in Jordan and Iraq concerning the buying and selling of primary materials and spare parts that would be used in the company's projects. Also discussed was the subject of making available sufficient funds for financing the company's

operations and the question of money transfers.

The Al Arda tomato juice and paste plant, run by the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) and the Iraqi government-owned vegetable picking plant were bought by the joint company for JD 250,000 each, in accordance with a decision taken by the Iraqi-Jordanian Higher Committee meeting co-chaired by the prime ministers of both countries.

The Baghdad-based joint company was set up two years ago with a paid up capital of JD 20 million, shared equally by the Jordanian and Iraqi governments.

Committee reviews electricity link between Jordan, Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) has returned from Egypt after taking part in the meetings of the joint technical committee for electrical connection between Jordan and Egypt, which concluded meetings on Saturday in Cairo.

During their week-long meetings, the committee members reviewed the preliminary bases for connecting the electrical systems of the two countries. The two sides decided to conduct technical and economic studies on connecting the national electrical grids of the two countries using sound

scientific and economic bases.

Once completed, the link between the two countries will serve as the nucleus for pan-Arab power connections using the central location of Jordan and Egypt in the Arab World as the linking point between the Arab World in Asia and Africa.

The joint technical committee is expected to finalise its study on connecting the national grids of the two countries in April and will submit a preliminary report on the feasibility of the link to the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Joint Committee.

VTC director briefs advisory team on vocational courses

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Munther Al Masri on Monday briefed instructors and supervisors at the training institute's advisory committee on the role of the VTC in providing vocational training courses for beginners and in upgrading the standard of the labour force and training vocational instructors and supervisors.

Mr. Masri said the corporation has organised vocational work and has significantly contributed towards organising employment

and drawing up a wages policy. He added that a special steering and coordinating committee has been formed to study the work plans and to determine the priorities of work and professions included in the vocational classifications and descriptions. Mr. Masri went on to say that other technical committees have been set up to formulate the necessary specifications and classifications of vocational work.

The VTC's advisory committee comprises representatives of the public and private sector institutions.

Ministries coordinate plans to construct agricultural roads

AMMAN (Petra) — The under secretaries of Ministries of Agriculture and Public Works on Monday presided over a joint meeting for directors of agriculture and public works departments in the governorates and districts of Jordan. The directors discussed means of bolstering coordination between the two ministries in the construction of agricultural roads in all areas of the Kingdom.

Agriculture Ministry Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi stressed the importance of coordination between the two ministries and said that his ministry could contribute by defining the priorities for constructing agricultural roads while the Ministry of Public Works is responsible for implementing the projects. He described coordination as vital in carrying out such joint projects and called for adopting an effective method

of implementation which would take into consideration the interests of residential gatherings and one which would serve agricultural production areas. This is the first time that the two ministries have held a joint meeting, Dr. Lawzi said.

Under Secretary at the Ministry of Public Works Khalaf Hawwari stressed the important role of the Ministry of Agriculture in defining agricultural roads and setting priorities for the construction of these roads.

During the meeting it was agreed that JD 125,000 be allocated for constructing agricultural roads in Irbid Governorate, JD 70,000 for Ma'an Governorate, JD 75,000 for Balqa Governorate, JD 50,000 for Zarqa Governorate, JD 45,000 for Ma'an Governorate and JD 90,000 to Amman Governorate.

Contacts underway to hold unofficial Arab summit

(Continued from page 1)
Majesty King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat who met here on Monday afternoon. The talks between the King and Mr. Arafat were the first since Jordan broke relations with the PLO leadership last year, when the latter refused to accept U.N. Resolution 242 as the basis for a peaceful settlement for the Palestinian question. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Qasem, and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri. The Palestinian side included PLO Executive Committee members Brigadier Abdul Razzaq Al Yahya, Mohammad Milhem,

Jawed Al Ghossein, Abdul Rahim Ahmad, Palestine National Council Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Saad, and Fatah Central Committee member Hani Al Hassen.

According to sources close to the meeting, both King Hussein and Mr. Arafat strongly supported the idea of organising an unofficial Arab summit on the fringes of the OIC summit. The sources said that the two sides also discussed the resumption of the work of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for the Support of the Steadfastness of the Palestinian People inside the Occupied Territories. The two sides also discussed the Iran-Iraq war and the Egyptian presence in the

UNFPA to help finance 1989 census

By Lima Nabil
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) will help finance a general population census in Jordan, expected to be held in 1989, according to Mr. Dervas Al Khlas, the director of UNFPA's programmes in the Kingdom.

In a statement to the Jordan Times and Al Ra'i Arabic daily, Mr. Al Khlas said that UNFPA will contribute by preparing for the census through providing organisational maps and defining regions and demographic centres.

The UNFPA will also help the Jordanian Department of Statistics by financing the process of spreading and distributing demographic information and analytical statistics related to the Kingdom's population, Mr. Al Khlas said.

Jordan normally carries out a general census every 10 years. The last census was conducted in the country in 1979.

According to Mr. Al Khlas, the UNFPA is currently studying the prospect of establishing a general secretariat on population to follow up, coordinate and assess matters pertaining to population projects and to help in the implementation of a population strategy in Jordan. He said that this secretariat would be working closely with the

Jordanian National Committee on Population which was established under the chairmanship of Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

UNFPA has allocated \$4 million to help finance population-related projects in Jordan between 1986 and 1989, Mr. Al Khlas pointed out.

Current projects

He said that at present UNFPA is supporting projects carried out by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), the General Federation of Jordanian Women, the population studies centre at the University of Jordan, the population communications project being carried out by Yarmouk University, the Department of Statistics and the Jordanian Society for Family Planning.

The NHF is benefitting from UNFPA's assistance in carrying out projects in rural communities to increase family income and spread awareness in matters connected with health and nutrition, Mr. Al Khlas continued. UNFPA is also helping the Jordanian Society for Family Planning by providing medical equipment and by paying the salaries of doctors and nurses doing overtime work at the

Department.

By the middle of 1987, Mr. Al Khlas said, the world's population is expected to reach five billion, and UNFPA will observe the occasion in July, when it will hold different functions and conduct several projects pertaining to population activities.

If they are staying beyond the two weeks period, they should produce a card to show that they have confirmed their presence

with the public security centre and the centre has to take the card upon their departure. Under the regulation, the source added, people who fail to register at the concerned security centre within the set period will be subject to a fine provided for in the residence law.

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

Department introduces new entry regulations for certain nationalities

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Public Security Department (PSD) on Monday issued new regulations governing the entry and registration of Arabs and foreigners in the country.

The new regulations, which will come into force as of Feb. 1, are designed to organise the entry, registration and departure of Arabs and foreigners in the country and to provide accurate statistics about them, according to a senior public security official.

The new regulations stipulate that citizens from Egypt and Syria, who are exempt from obtaining residence permits, must produce their passports at the entry point upon their arrival, the source added.

According to the new regulations, citizens from two countries may stay for two weeks in the country, during which time they have to confirm their presence with the public security centre in the area where they are staying. If they depart within the set period of two weeks, they have to produce their passports to the concerned officials for stamping at the date stamp.

If they are staying beyond the two weeks period, they should produce a card to show that they have confirmed their presence

with the public security centre in their areas. Border points will organise daily lists of incoming and outgoing people with details about their passports, addresses and residence and will forward them to the Foreigners Affairs

Department.

In cases of such people staying beyond the set period without confirming their presence at the security centres and without obtaining a card to this effect, they will be subject to a fine provided for in the residence law. Such cards will be handed back to the police authorities upon their departure from the country.

Under the new regulations, the police will prepare special registers for each separate nationality and will register the serial number of each arriving individual on his passport. Police authorities will make periodic checks to ensure that all those arriving have confirmed their presence with the public security centres.

The regulations also provided for preparing monthly statistics to be forwarded to the Foreigners Affairs Department.

The regulations also gave foreigners living in the country before the enforcement of these measures a grace period ending on April 30.

The source said that special follow up teams have been formed at various police departments and at the foreigners and borders departments to follow up on the implementation of these regulations.

Society warns of threat to environment from over exploitation of resources

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) has warned that the government, under pressure to provide people with vital public services, has not considered the potential threats inherent in the over exploitation of the Kingdom's natural resources.

RSCN President Anis Muasher said in a speech delivered at the Orthodox Club on Sunday evening that water and other natural resources in the country were under threat due to an over-use of these resources in a way which is harming the long-term interests of society and future generations.

He blamed both private and public sector industrial and housing projects which he said had destroyed vegetation and wildlife in many parts of the Kingdom. Mr. Muasher said the area of agricultural land in Jordan has been reduced in a matter of years from 4.5 million dunums to 3.25 million today.

"Jordan, which was once almost self-sufficient," Mr. Muasher told the audience, "today imports 80 per cent of its food needs." Despite what he described as a "positive government response" to appeals by his society, Mr. Muasher said the government was "under pressure and unable to think about the future." He said the government was having difficulties catering to environmental necessities while responding to the ever-growing and urgent needs of the population.

He said that while it is the duty



of the RSCN and citizens to cooperate and help preserve natural resources, it was the government's duty to determine, through legislation, the relationship between the citizen and his environment, and safeguard the interests of future generations.

He said that despite being occasionally accused of "obstructing development and progress," the RSCN has scored several triumphs for nature, namely through the establishment of several wildlife reserves thus saving a number of wild animals from extinction, and, by controlling activities threatening natural life in Aqaba and other areas in the Kingdom.

The RSCN has been diligently trying to assert a national strategy for the conservation of nature to be adopted by the government. The society is also cooperating with the Ministry of Education for the purpose of including material in school curriculums stressing the importance of protecting the environment.

Slides on the society's work prepared by Mr. Mansour Muasher were also shown after the lecture.

Project for senior citizens' village awaiting land allocation

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The construction of a village for senior citizens has been further delayed, according to Mr. Fakhri Bilbeisi, the vice president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

Initially, GUVS planned to build a modern village for senior citizens on a piece of land offered by the government near Na'ur. "However, we were later informed by the Department of Lands and Surveys that the piece of land had already been allocated for another purpose," said Mr. Bilbeisi. The union is presently waiting to be appropriated another piece of land which Mr. Bilbeisi hopes will be allocated in the next month or two.

Last year, GUVS introduced the idea of a village as a means to accommodate the increasing number of elderly in Jordan.

The Ministry of Social Development has predicted that the number of senior citizens will reach 160,000 by the year 2000, many of whom will turn to society for their needs.

The village will extend some services to the elderly. For the initial stage, GUVS has provided JD 50,000 and at the moment the

plan includes small, separate houses for those senior citizens who want their privacy and dormitories for those who need help in moving and eating.

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The project is being carried out in consultation with the Ministry of Social Development and the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund. Once the land is allocated and the primary stage completed, they will promote the project by asking for contributions, said Mr. Bilbeisi. The proposed time for completion is another two or three years.

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Facilities

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Man admits clubbing brother-in-law to death

RUSEIFA (J.T.) — A 27-year-old labourer, identified only as Z.A.S.S., killed his brother-in-law on Friday and disposed of the body along the Maheen road, public security sources said on Monday. The sources added that Z.A. killed his brother-in-law in collusion with a 24-year-old citizen from Zarqa, identified as Y.M., after a family dispute. The victim died from injuries after being beaten with a club, the sources added. The man was arrested by the police authorities and after questioning he admitted killing his brother in law.

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Self-defeating isolation

TRUE, the Iranian boycott of the fifth Islamic conference is a setback, but we think that the setback is for Iran rather than for the Organisation of Islamic Conference. By staying away from the Islamic deliberations, the Iranian leaders have in effect decided to forsake the Islamic World and have chosen a path which is alien to Islam and the Islamic peoples. By declaring beforehand that Iran would reject any resolution on the war, the Iranian leadership must obviously have decided to isolate itself from the rest of the Islamic countries, as well as from the rest of humanity.

The pretexts which Iranian officials have advanced in support of their decision to boycott the Islamic conference are dubious and untenable. To allege that the Kuwaiti venue is improper because Kuwait has taken sides on the issue of the Iran-Iraq war, is, in itself, untenable. Iranian officials must know by now that they would have to search endlessly and in vain to find Islamic countries which have not yet taken a position on the war. After six years of bitter fighting between the two Islamic countries, and Iran's rejection of every peace initiative, whether by the Islamic or international community, the Iranian government should not be too surprised that Kuwait has chosen the side which calls for reason, common sense, and an end to the shedding of Islamic blood. Maybe there are some countries which stand behind a facade of neutrality and have not formally announced a position on the Gulf conflict, but there is hardly one single Muslim country that has not voiced regret and anger at the Iranian refusal to cooperate with the various offers to end the war.

The Iranian leaders would be well advised not to deceive themselves into believing that they enjoy support from any corner of the earth. And, lest they forget, there is a cardinal principle in Islam which calls for Al Shurra among the Islamic peoples in case of conflict, and there are other cardinal tenets of the Islamic faith which abhor the shedding of Islamic blood by Islamic hands. The fifth Islamic summit is in essence a Shurra forum for the Islamic community to talk to one another and seek solutions for their conflicts and challenges. Would Iran not be in a better position if its leadership attended this summit and joined hands with the rest of Islam, and with humanity as a whole, in the search for an honourable solution to this inter-Islamic conflict. Some forty-six Islamic countries have decided to convene in Kuwait over the objections and protestations of Iran. This is a clear message to the regime in Tehran that the Islamic World wants an immediate end to the war, no matter what grievances and complaints have been advanced, by either side. The message may not exactly be to the Iranian mullahs' liking. Nevertheless it is the message that they should hear and listen to, clearly and carefully.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Historic task for summit

LEADERS of the Islamic and Arab nations Monday open a summit conference in Kuwait amid an atmosphere marked with hope and deep responsibility, and appreciation of the current grave events in the Arab and Islamic worlds and the challenges threatening them. Of course, some positive factors at the outset of the meetings do not mean that the way is laid with roses. Everything possible should be done to arrive at fruitful results that would benefit Arabs and Muslims. These leaders are now faced with crucial problems to solve and with differences among Islamic countries to overcome, before arriving at positive results. These leaders have to tackle the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Gulf war and foreign designs to impose hegemony on the Arab and Muslim nations. These are grave issues plaguing the Arab and Muslim countries and require solutions from the summit. This meeting in Kuwait is more than a gathering for reconciliation among leaders and it is rather a chance for these leaders to handle these challenges and work together for regaining their usurped holy places and preventing their land from falling under foreign domination. In addition, the summit is a chance for the leaders to find means of bolstering their economic cooperation and helping one another in bringing about stability and progress to their nations.

Al Dustour: For the sake of the nation

ARAB and Islamic leaders are meeting in Kuwait today (Monday), full of hope that they will come out with resolutions and actions that will serve their nation. It is a chance for these leaders who represent one quarter of the world's population to re-examine the present situation in the Arab and Islamic worlds, and find means for solving problems affecting the lives of their people and threatening their future. The meeting in Kuwait is taking place amid very critical circumstances which call for intensification of efforts on the part of all the leaders of this nation and common threats make it imperative on them to come up with speedy and effective solutions. The summit in Kuwait is confronted with the question of continued Israeli occupation of Arab land and holy places including Al Aqsa Mosque, and Israel's arbitrary measures and atrocities. They also are confronted with the on-going Gulf conflict that has been sapping the resources of the Arab and Islamic nations for nearly seven years. Perhaps the Gulf conflict now takes priority over all other considerations, because it is a war that continues to weaken the Islamic nations, rendering them incapable of taking meaningful action to regain their usurped territory in Palestine.

Sawt Al Shaab: Serious issues for summit

THE Islamic summit opens in Kuwait today (Monday) as the Arab and Islamic nations face a crossroads and a turning point in their history. It is true that the leaders of the two nations have opted for reason and decided to meet in Kuwait to try to solve the problems of their nations, but these leaders have grave issues on their hands and serious questions to tackle. Apart from striving to achieve solidarity among their nations, these leaders will tackle the Iran-Iraq war in a bid to find an end to the bloodshed and a lasting solution for the conflict that has been going on for nearly seven years. They also are confronted with the Palestine question and the issue of the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland; the Lebanese question and the problem of Afghanistan. Therefore, we can say that the summit in Kuwait represents one of the most significant Arab and Islamic meetings in modern history.

Israelis continue shifting towards more belligerence

The following article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International. The writer is an Israeli living in London and author of The Un-Jewish State.

By Akiva Orr

AN opinion poll conducted in Israel in September by the Smith Institute (which predicted the outcome of the last Israeli elections with a 98 per cent accuracy) asked: "Should Israel offer the Arabs a territorial compromise in Judea-Samaria-Gaza in return for guarantees in peace negotiations?", meaning: should Israel hand back the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in return for a peace treaty with the Palestinians? No, said 54 per cent; Yes, said 37 per cent. The same question was asked earlier, in February. The answers then were: No — 50 per cent. Yes — 41 per cent.

The answers to the following questions in a series of polls are significant: (source, *Davar* 2 October 1986).

These results should make it clear to all those concerned with the Arab-Israeli conflict that Israel will not return the West Bank or Gaza to the Palestinians. Of the two major political parties in Israel, the extremist nationalistic Likud is committed — ideologically and politically — to strengthen Israel's hold on these territories. The Labour Alignment (*Ma'arakh*) has a strong desire to annex these territories but it is worried about the problems which the 1.5m Palestinian inhabitants will cause, and it lacks the courage to suggest

any policies which will antagonise a nationalistic electorate.

As the West Bank and Gaza are not going to be handed back to the Palestinians, nor to any other Arab state (such as Jordan or Egypt), how does Israel intend to

occupied in 1967 any democratic rights. This is the reason why the Knesset has refused for these 20 years to officially annex these territories. If the territories are annexed their inhabitants will have the right to vote and share equal rights with all other Israelis. Such a possibility is a nightmare which haunts many Israelis, especially the Labour leadership.

will participate in the politics of Jordan! This kind of "solution" is labelled "autonomy". How come? The Palestinians will be free to vote for political parties in Jordan, whereas their land, life and property will be under absolute Israeli rule and they will have no say in the way their cities are run. Those who think such a solution could not be serious should consider the following opinion of Professor Yeheskel Dror, director of the Centre for Security Studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and a key Labour Party expert on this subject:

The Palestinian issue can only be solved by some kind of Jordanian solution. Several scenarios support this conclusion:

If Israel unilaterally implements autonomy, the Arabs achieve political rights and statehood only with Jordan; if Israel annexes

Judea and Samaria demographic realities make it essential for the Arab population to realise its political rights in Jordan; and if a quasi-independent Palestinian entity is set up in Judea and Samaria, it's only chance for a long-range viability lies in taking over Jordan. (*Jerusalem Post*, 2 October 1986).

The "demographic realities" he refers to are the Israeli anxiety about sharing power with 1.5m Palestinians whose birth rate is higher than the Jewish population, and who might become a majority in Israel. It is not a "demographic reality" that "makes it essential for the Arab population to realise its political rights in Jordan" but a

neurotic refusal of most Israelis to transform Israel into a democracy of its actual inhabitants. Professor Dror's view is shared by most Alignment leaders.

As for the "quasi-independent Palestinian entity" scenario, can anyone seriously suggest that it will "take over Jordan"? Yet this suggestion hints at another option lurking in the minds of many Israelis, namely, to expel the Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza into Jordan and let them create their state there. This proposal is Rabbi Meir Kahane's declared policy, supported (according to the opinion poll quoted above) by a third of the Jewish population, and almost certainly by the majority of the Likud leadership — and the Alignment leadership, although they do not admit it publicly.

To sum up: The balance of forces within Israel is overwhelmingly tipped in favour of those who insist retaining the West Bank and Gaza for good. The Palestinian resistance movement and all the Arab states, separately or together, lack the military strength to force Israel to change its policy on this issue. The internal strife within the Arab World makes it unlikely that it will yield its considerable economic and political weight to change the situation. The United States, the only foreign power capable of forcing Israel to evacuate the West Bank and Gaza, is unwilling to do so and has been fobbed off successfully for the last 20 years.

These circumstances force all those involved in this conflict, particularly the Palestinians

themselves, to consider seriously the possibility that the West Bank and Gaza will remain under Israeli rule for the foreseeable future. Moreover, if this possibility is accepted, policies will have to be reshaped accordingly. Of all the factors involved in this issue the struggle of the Palestinians in the occupied territories for the most basic democratic rights now forces the one capable of making the conflict resemble more and more that in South Africa. The Israelis do not wish to appear to be like the racist whites in South Africa, but the struggle of the Palestinians in the occupied territories for elementary democratic rights — which they have been denied for 20 years and see no prospect of getting in the future — pushes Israel ever further into an openly racist role.

The recent killing of the student demonstrators at Bir Zeit University, followed by the storming of the Ramallah hospital by Israeli soldiers, firing their way through the wards in an attempt to snatch the bodies of the killed students from the morgue to prevent a public funeral which would turn into a mass demonstration against the Israeli occupation, highlights a new phase in the struggle. Israel is becoming more violently racist, and the Palestinian struggle is becoming more like the struggle of the blacks in South Africa. The fact that Israel is trapped by its obsession to retain the occupied territories at all costs could be turned into an asset by those who struggle for democracy and justice.

Britain and 25 years of change in the Mideast

In a speech to the London-based Middle East Association, the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, outlined his country's views on the problems and developments in the Middle East. In his speech, delivered on Jan. 22, Sir Geoffrey discussed Britain's perceptions of changes in the area over the past 25 years and of ways to deal with them. Following is the full text of the speech:

IT is an understatement to say that the Middle East has undergone momentous changes during the 25 years of your association's existence.

Oil has transformed the economies of many of the states of the region. They are now the masters of their own resources.

And it is one of the tragedies of the Palestinian problem that, for too many people, the name Palestinian has become identified with terrorist.

There is no colonial presence in the Middle East. New found wealth has bolstered the political independence of those states concerned. It has allowed them to play an increasingly prominent role in international affairs.

The strident nationalism of the 1960's — often anti-colonial in inspiration — has largely disappeared. But two new phenomena have emerged which each in their very different ways challenge stability in the region and beyond: International terrorism and the unpredictable effects of religious fundamentalism.

Wars — two between the Arabs and Israel, the Lebanon civil war and the Iran-Iraq conflict — have shattered the peace of the area and cost hundreds of thousands of lives.

That brief summary of developments is enough to reveal both the opportunities for and the threats to trade with the area. It is your job as exporters to grasp the opportunities. It is our job as politicians to try to minimise the threats.

Of all the threats we face, terrorism is the most dramatic. It has impinged on the lives of innocent people world-wide. This sort of indiscriminate violence cannot be ignored. No country is immune. No government can buy protection from it.

Of course, we must tackle the causes. Many terrorist groups

civilising force for centuries. Its influence can now be discerned world-wide. From Regents Park to Jakarta, we see the vitality of Islam.

In a sense, most Muslims are fundamentalists. They care deeply about their religion and take it seriously. But most of those active in the cause of fundamentalism talk of the defence of Islam, in other words the preservation of their values. Only a few are engaged in the export of revolution.

Lebanon has become the cockpit of the extremist experiment, with fanatical groups competing for influence, or merely sowing destruction by mass murder, hostage-taking and assassination. The most intransigent of these groups have internationalised the issue by their attacks on innocent Westerners.

We condemn terrorist violence, whatever ideological arguments may be deployed in attempts to justify it. This government is convinced that it is a mistake to do deals with hostage takers.

Arab-Israeli conflict

Amidst all the changes I have described, the one unchanging feature, alas, has been the collective failure to solve the Arab-Israel dispute. This casts a permanent shadow over the region and remains the biggest single long-term threat to security and therefore to the environment in which you are trading.

Confrontation between Israel and its neighbours has been nourished by myths on both sides:

— Among Arabs that with their numbers and financial strength time is on their side.

— Among Israelis that they can indefinitely ignore the aspirations and frustrations of the Palestinians under occupation without destroying the "democratic" values of Israeli society.

Surely five wars and 40 years of sullen suffering have shown that there are no victories to be won except when each side recognises the strength as well as the legi-

timacy not of its own but of the other's position.

— Israel is there to stay. It has a right to security within recognised boundaries.

— The Palestinians are a people who cannot be wished away.

Can there be real peace?

— Until Israel is freely accepted by the Palestinians whose future is in stake in any negotiated settlement?

— Until the Palestinians are permitted to exercise their right to self-determination?

— Until representatives of the Palestinians take part in negotiations?

— And until those representatives, the PLO or whoever they may be, in turn commit themselves unequivocally to repudiate violence and accept Israel's rights?

Sooner or later a bargain must be struck. I wish that more people in the lands where snags were first created would understand the Arab proverb "rather a bird in the hand than ten on the tree." All of us who deal with the Middle East and have a stake in its future stability and prosperity have a role to play.

In understanding and explaining the fears and aspirations which have left such a bitter legacy of suspicion and mistrust.

In trying to defuse the flash-points of tension.

— In searching for points of common agreement.

The United States are best placed to help. Dick (Richard) Murphy has just been in the Middle East. These renewed efforts to encourage agreement between the parties must be energetically pursued.

We, and our European partners, will continue to be active but realistic in promoting negotiations. There is a growing consensus in the region that an international conference properly managed could help. Shimon Peres, with whom I had very friendly and useful talks last night, has endorsed this approach. And it has strong Arab support. But any conference must

be put to good use, not turned into another forum for ritual rhetoric. That means a clear understanding in advance on who will take part in the conference, what it will discuss and how it will approach its goals. And it means a willingness to promote that understanding.

We look to the Soviet Union and others who profess support for a conference to work positively and constructively on these lines.

We cannot give up the search for peace. But while peace eludes us we cannot ignore the fate of those who have suffered most directly from confrontation. That is why during the British presidency of the EC we pressed for improvements in the economic and political condition of the inhabitants of Occupied Arab territory.

We have strongly reminded the Israelis of their obligations as an occupying power to respect human rights. They proclaim their attachment to democracy and respect for the rule of law. But do all those subject to Israeli authority enjoy these rights to the same extent?

We have rationalised and increased the EC aid programme for the occupied territories and increased the EC contribution to UNRWA.

We have more than doubled our bilateral aid programme for the Palestinians to £1 million a year, half to be channelled through Jordanian institutions.

We have also announced a contribution of £10 million to the new Jordanian 5 year plan.

Nowhere in the Middle East have innocent civilians suffered more than in the unending tragedy of Lebanon. Our hearts go out to victims of the fighting in all the communities: To victims of the Lebanese civil war, of Israel's invasion and continuing occupation, of the current deplorable outbreak of fighting between Amal militia and the Palestinians, and of indiscriminate acts of terrorism. All groups in Lebanon must show restraint and allow

relief workers to carry out their essential humanitarian work.

Naturally we think particularly of three British citizens missing there whose fate is unknown. We are doing all that we can to obtain news of them — and, we can do so, to promote their release.

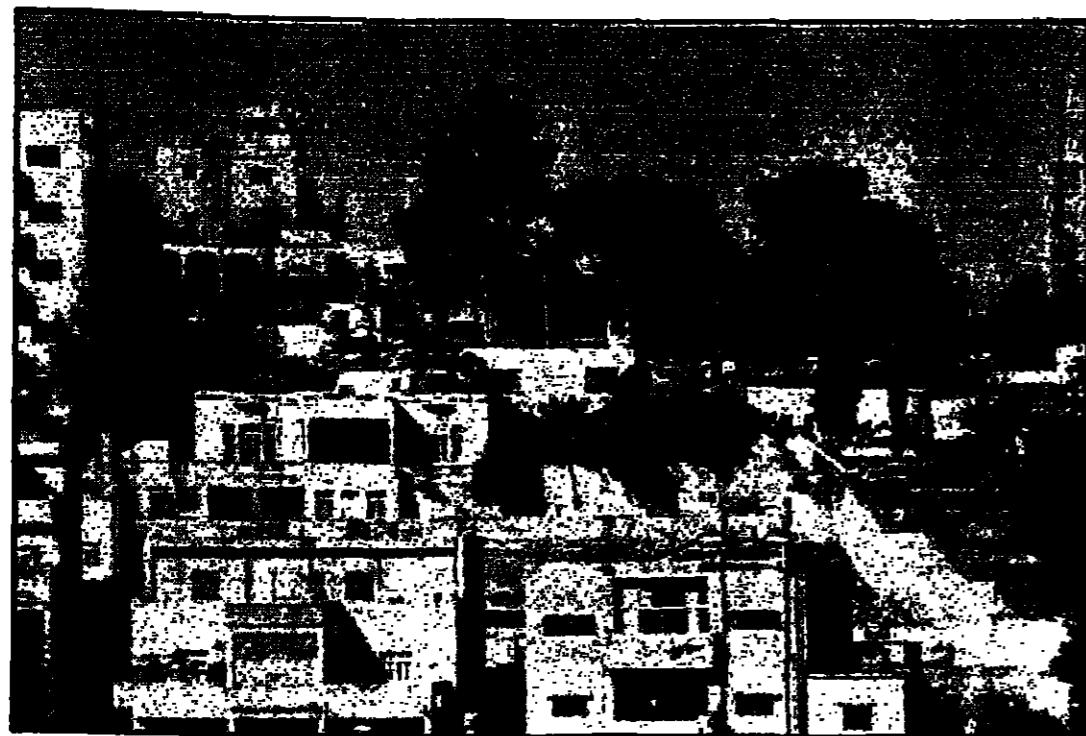
Ultimately only the Lebanese can solve their differences. But they need freedom from outside interference. That is why Israel must complete the withdrawal of its forces, why we supported the renewal of UNIFIL's mandate last week and why UNIFIL must be allowed to operate down to the border with Israel. It is in nobody's interest that instability in Lebanon should precipitate another major crisis in the Middle East.

The other disastrous conflict in the region, the Iran-Iraq conflict, continues to waste human and material resources at an alarming rate. The death toll is rising, while the economies of both countries are strained to the limit. It is not by resorting to chemical weapons, nor by disregarding appeals to negotiate, that the conflict will be ended. The latest battles to the east of Basra and Baghdad show that both sides still find it difficult to gain a decisive advantage.

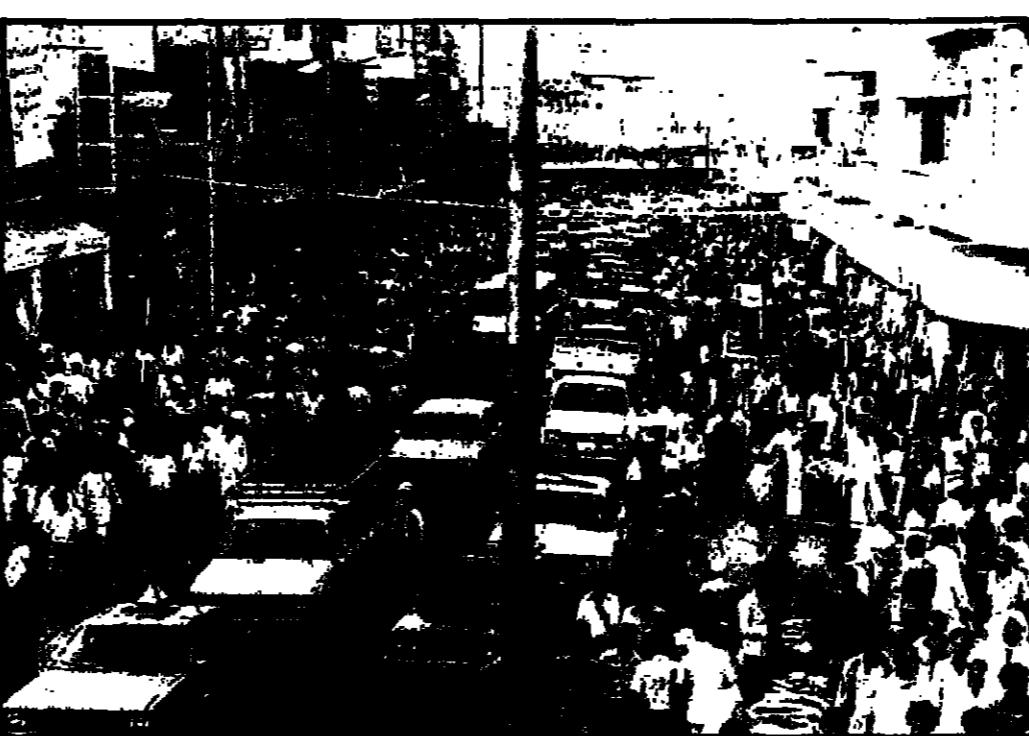
It is remarkable that carnage on this scale has so far remained so localised. But the war could spread down the Gulf. Merchant ships are already being attacked. We deplore such attacks, which both endanger the lives of seamen and deter trade.

In order to reassure those operating and working in merchant ships, the Royal Navy has stepped up its presence in the Gulf and will give assistance when this is needed. We fervently hope the war will not spread. The combatants must be persuaded to sit down and talk. The United Nations remain best placed to help. The forthcoming meeting of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in Kuwait will be a good opportunity for friends of both Iran and Iraq to reaffirm the need to reach a peaceful settlement.

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An example of Amman's 'first ring' architecture



Amman's downtown: Warm, noisy, alive and kicking!

Amman's architecture: An urban or an identity crisis?

By Jafar Toukan

The writer is one of the leading architects in Jordan and the Middle East. The following is a lecture he delivered last month in Amman.

In the past few years I faced many different forms of the same question: Is Amman a beautiful city, and if not, why? and what can we do about it?

I am sure all of you have paused and wondered about these questions with a certain degree of anxiety and skepticism. Few may be optimistic and find Amman beautiful, I am not one of those. But I must make a clarification here: I am talking strictly from an urban and architectural point of view. I see many positive aspects of life in Amman, but certainly urban and the architectural aspects are not among them. I also feel a strong concern about what may have led to this unfortunate situation and sincerely hope that something could be done to prevent Amman's urban crisis from extending to other positive aspects of its life and destroying them too.

Let me demonstrate briefly what I mean by Amman's urban crisis. First, let us take the present Amman through the history of its growth and, for this purpose, imagine it as having a series of concentric rings, around the downtown area of the city, representing distinct phases of growth.

The first ring marks the period from the 1920s to 1948, the second from 1948 to 1956, the third from 1956 to 1967, the fourth from 1967 to 1976 and the last from 1976 onwards.

These phases were characterised by convulsive growth patterns resulting from sudden increases in population, and thus creating tremendous pressure on the social, economic and administrative aspects of life in Amman.

I am sure each of you must have also noticed, even if not with particular interest, that distinct urban changes reflect the same ring patterns. An interesting coincidence is the sequence of the circles of Jabal Amman and the way they crudely relate to these growth rings.

It is an established fact that the urban fabric of a city is a true reflection of its history, and in an attempt to understand what is happening to Amman, let us go through the characteristics of the phases of growth so we may draw conclusions as to the impact of the social and economic atmosphere on the urban character of Amman.

The first phase of growth spanning from the twenties to the late forties was characterised by a fairly slow and natural evolution, where socio-economic forces were manageable and development curves were relatively parallel. Not much of this Amman is visible at the moment, much of it has been demolished, but the few remaining examples that are still visible testify to that period.

That period witnessed the birth and early formation years of the state; and they were filled with the zeal and solidarity of the founders. Yet the town was small, simple and hardly populated. It developed around the Roman amphitheatre and along the flood basin "Sayl Amman." The building technology at that time was basic. Almost totally indigenous-building materials were used. And the more well-to-do could bring artisans from the more developed cities to build their houses. Architectural forms and decorations reflected the prevailing architectural vocabulary of the region; one building was the natural development of the previous in a natural process of growth. Houses touched one another sympathetically and grew so organically from the ground and on the hills in a fascinating cubicistic compositions and in harmony with the landscape.

The second phase witnessed a sudden explosion of the population, from 60,000 to 200,000 within a fairly short period of time. The earlier part of this phase, although influenced by the sudden physical pressure, was

absorbed by a fairly strong social and economic homogeneity. Until the middle and late fifties, this homogeneity reflected itself quite effectively on the social and economic scenes. A quick look at the structure of the country as a whole would reveal the fact that all citizens could, in a fairly simple and intuitive way, participate with the administrators and the politicians in the decisions governing their life and future in this country. The urban and architectural quality of Amman at that period reflected clearly the atmosphere of a basic and simple kind of democracy.

Needs were addressed straightforwardly and solutions were direct and effective. The town was naturally and spontaneously compatible with man. Streets and buildings, at the service of man, and man loved the street and loved the building and decorated them. The street was an extension to his home-house and both were sympathetic to one another.

This period was also characterised by a certain degree of social and political confidence. We still believed that the loss of a precious part of the Arab World was only an unfortunate battle that we lost, and since the reason for the loss was "found" — as numerous coups d'état took place in the Arab World at the time "to eradicate the causes of the loss" — our hopes in our political future were still high and our outlook was optimistic.

On the other hand the economy held promise, although the oil wealth did not yet start to flow at that time.

This mood was reflected in the architectural and urban development: homogeneous and harmonious buildings almost touching each other grew around streets of a human scale. This second period came as a natural successor to the earlier formative year. The system of the state was developed in a way compatible with the size of the population and the country's available resources.

The physical aspect of the city again was, as well, a natural growth process of the first period, but the process was more organised and more conscious of building technologies. The needs of the house owners were very similar, variations happened in the detail, in the form of arches, friezes, capitals, etc. The garden was always an integral part of the living space, heavily used and almost always spilling its greenery into the street. Stairs, gates, rails and fences were always handled with sensitivity to the street and the passer-by. And there was no pretence. There was elegance, modesty, and homogeneity. This homogeneity was starting to give Amman a special identity and character, a definite scale; and stone was a unifying theme that one could say Amman was becoming a concrete to stone.

During this period not only the owner loved his house — the builder, the joiner and the painter also loved it and were all proud of their work. Those houses reflected this love, as well as a clear sense of identity.

Mr. Toukan's library has a variety of over 750 hard-back books and 25 different periodicals on and related to architecture mostly in English and the rest are in Arabic and French. One can also find completed projects done by Mr. Toukan and partners.

Although the library is at Mr. Toukan's office, it is open for anyone who wishes to make use of its books and magazines.

Mr. Toukan, a highly-reputed architect in the region, decided to open the library when he realised that he had a large number of books and magazines — some dating back to 1960 — piled up at his house. He told the Jordan Times that he felt that the publications should be used by people who could learn from them.

"So three years ago, I brought them to the office and hired a good librarian, Randa Hussein. She organized the publications, and since then the library has doubled. And we are continuously updating and upgrading it with magazines and books," Mr. Toukan said.

All the publications' titles are

inevitably, experimented superficially with concepts of the international style. I say superficially because the economic and social conditions which produced that style in the West did not in any way apply here.

Amman architecture in those days started its slide down hill with the little quality in the buildings of that period was certainly not the contribution of the architect, but the contribution of the good old builder who could still dominate the inexperienced architect, and who in turn — and because of the social complex — could not benefit enough from the experience of the builder.

The city started growing faster and the administration was finding it more difficult to cope with change through the old means. There was a limited capability to research, analyse, diagnose and remedy the situation. The little wealth on the official level mainly helped in producing short-term solutions to existing problems — no time for forecasting and no time for preemptive or comprehensive planning.

Furthermore, the architecture of the later fifties and sixties witnessed the introduction of the academically qualified architect: A new player on the stage of the urban development, a young professional educated abroad, impregnated with architectural and planning concepts of the place where he studied, and too young to assimilate the new knowledge with his indigenous architectural stock. Those were the hay days of the international style of the West, and our architects then,

One can detect in the buildings of this period a total misunderstanding of the nature of building materials, details and expressions of statical stability. The architectural quality declined further and faster.

Urban planning suffered even more, because it could not continue intuitively and slowly as it used to be, allowing no room for experimentation and dialogue. It had to be done and fast. Surveyors, and at best inexperienced architects had to carry out whatever planning work had to be done.

Surveyors lost their contact with one another, they got out from the walls of the house to the car and from the car to the work place and vice versa.

No more street friends. No more neighbourly sentiments.

Everything is severely isolated. As the houses became the sole outlet for self expression and with the absence of the social bond, a very strange mixture of architectural and urban disasters emerged. The building and the street did not primarily serve man anymore. Houses and buildings are now meant to show off wealth, power and exclusivity, rather than warmth and comfort and social integration. Streets lost their human scale, priority was given to the car and the false concept that wide streets and boulevards meant great and beautiful city.

With the increase of population and flow of wealth in the country the growth rate exceeded the ability of the planning system. Houses were built long before services could reach them; economic differences became more and more pronounced.

In this atmosphere the worst construction boom took place in Amman, a confused, rich and fragmented community built the latest episode in Amman's urban fabric.

What we sceptically consider in our question about the beauty or the person of Amman, is this exact episode.

Massive lifeless housing schemes, both by the government and the private sector, sprang all over the place. A most chaotic mixture of houses of all styles, shapes and sizes were flung arbitrarily on the surface of Amman. Barren streets criss-crossed what used to be lovely hills and beautiful landscape. The citizen constantly wanted to break the building regulations, and the administration reluctantly allowed it. Even the available artisan lost his pride in his work, his interest became quantity at the expense of quality. Man's responsibility to the city ended at the gate of his fence and the duty of the city, as far as he is concerned, ended with glorified garbage container in front of his nicely-decorated gate.

Although the planner provided left-over green areas, they were generally inaccessible to the public. The planner, rarely cared about creating vistas and focal points of interest in the city, few such focal points were left by sheer accidents. Abu Darwish Mosque in Amman is an example.

In the later seventies, and in a well intended attempt to revise and "modernise" the building code, a form of high rise

architecture emerged. A serious problem of scale came to the surface. The spirally rising land prices specially in the commercial areas encouraged owners to go high. Several mammoth towers loom over the Amman skyline crushing below their dark shadows, the delicate homogeneity of the typical Amman small houses.

The lack of consciousness about the city shape was mutually shared by both the citizen and the administration: on the street, along with the garbage containers, we could see, with very few exception, bad sculptures badly executed, TV antennas, roof tanks and solar heaters were dumped on roof without any attempt to integrate them with the building in any way.

In the "individual" house only the specific owners of the house are what mattered the other man did not matter, the city did not matter. In the street and the urban space, man also did not matter.

Cars mattered, investment mattered, but the poor man did not matter. Man had to look inward to compensate.

Man became isolated within the boundaries of his house; even the planner who after all another citizen expressed this isolation in his planning. Endless rows of square plots flanking long lifeless streets. Isolation started to mean more prestige, the wider the set backs from the street and the neighbourhood, the more sought after became the neighbourhood.

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India's Institute of Design: Shape of things to come

By Avinash Pancholi

Away from the din of textile mills on the western banks of river Sabarmati in Ahmedabad, capital of the state of Gujarat in western India, nestles the National Institute of Design in its sprawling 21 acre campus. This prestigious institution has been maintaining a low profile, despite having nursed some of India's most creative brains in conceptual designs.

1987 marks the completion of 25 years of its illustrious history.

In April 1962, when the American designer couple, Charles and Ray Eames published the famous "India Report," the impression they created was that of a routine travelogue on the exotic East. Little did one realise that a passing reference on the "functional utility of a simple lota" (a typical small Indian brass vessel for drinking water) would serve as the germ idea for one of India's premier institutions to blossom.

Justifying the project, the Eames had stated: "The reason for (setting up) such an institute as we describe is that it will hasten the production of the 'lotas' of our time. By this we hope that an attitude will be generated that will appraise and solve the problems of our coming times with the same tremendous service, dignity and love that the 'lotas' have served in time."

Quoting from the Bhagavat Gita, Eames wrote: "You must perform your duty, regardless of reward." And successive generations of students and faculty members of the Institute seemed to have been inspired by this teaching of the Gita, and dedicated themselves to achieving the ideals for which it was set up.

Initially conceived as a nursery for design teachers, the Institute has gradually diversified its curriculum to cater to the changing demands of modern times. As Mr. Ashok Chatterjee, former executive director and present adviser to the Institute has stated: "Design is not art. It is not technology either, but an attitude towards the environment. It is the environment itself. Design is concerned with meeting users' needs and improving users' lives."

Accordingly, students are trained in making animation films, designing posters, video editing, film processing, laboratory work etc. In fact, every conceivable discipline in visual communication and industrial design techniques is presented to strengthen the students' grounding on theoretical matters.

There are no examinations here because the performance of students is periodically assessed towards the end of every semester," says Ms. Veena Rajpal, vice-chairman of the Institute. "Just as the test of the pudding is in eating, the final year student has to do a project independently. A diploma is conferred on him only after the faculty is satisfied by the project."

Apart from theoretical training, the Institute offers a very specialised "client and consultancy" service, a programme for on-the-job training of students. "The income from this service helps the Institute to cover at least 30 per cent of its expenses," explains Ms. Rajpal. "Assignments are thrown open, thereby providing an excellent opportunity to expose students and the faculty to real life professional challenges and requirements."

With the emphasis thus on "learning by earning," the students are from time to time invited to live with artisans in villages and familiarise themselves with the traditional skills and rural artefacts. They are also provided with placement opportunities after completion of their courses in the Institute.

Some of the most visible and outstanding examples of the Institute's creations are the logos of the State Bank of India and the Indian Dairy Corporation, the monogram of Indian Airlines and the emblem of Doordarshan with the legend "Satyam Shivam Sundaram" (Truth, Goodness, Beauty) underscored. Posters for the Government of India as well as

State governments on family planning, health, public sanitation etc. have also been designed by the Institute's clients.

Apart from creating symbols and evocative messages, the National Institute of Design also designs and fabricates a wide range of industrial articles ranging from garments to pedal operated lathe. A blood oxygenator designed for the Shree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology at Trivandrum, in Kerala State in South India, has obviated the need for import of this gadget, thus saving foreign exchange. Its striking feature is that it combines the functions of a cariotomy reservoir, thereby serving as a multi-purpose, compact and easy to operate medical kit. This oxygenator has a hard shell disposable unit with a transparent polycarbonate body.

For victims of cerebral palsy and paediatric ailments, the Institute has devised a special wheel chair which provides for simple games, a learning kit, toilet seat, etc. At a workshop conducted by the All India Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in Bombay, a special kit for the blind was also tried out by the students. Various skills like knitting, weaving, crocheting, embroidery and applique work were taught using waste material.

Apart from devising medical kits, the Institute has embarked on supplementing efforts promoting tourism in the country. Specially designed kits on Brahma, Rishabh, Sikhi, Kushinagar and Sravasti have already become exceedingly popular among foreigners visiting India. The students have also prepared attractive tourist maps of various cities and states, indicating the facilities available, time tables of the city bus service, etc. for tourists. Efforts at trying out off-beat projects have led to restructuring bus stops and water huts at important spots. From redesigning the simple bullock cart to the country's major power stations, the Institute's students are thus making their presence felt.

Recently the Institute made an animation film on leprosy, vividly recreating the sufferings of victims and society's apathy towards them. Another Institute film, "National Highway," won the prestigious All India Safety Awareness award.

Currently members of the faculty and students are busy with a project, "Discovery of India Through Children's Eyes" due for exhibition at the forthcoming Festival of India in the Soviet Union. Only recently, it has mounted a similar multi-disciplinary exposition on India's tourist spots and festivals for the last Festival of India in the United States.

For all this pioneering work through the years the National Institute of Design has earned high commendation in India and abroad. Among many honours it has received the International Award for Design in Developing Countries or the ICSID — Philip award in 1977.

In August 1985, the Institute received the World Design Award for "future designs" from the International Council of Societies of Industrial Design at its World Congress in the United States. The Council also honoured the Institute's founder, Charles Eames, with a posthumous award for being "the most influential industrial designer of the 20th century."

Three months later, in November 1985, the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers of United Kingdom presented the Institute with the Sir Misha Black Memorial Award, in recognition of its "distinguished contribution to design education."

As part of its silver jubilee celebrations, it has instituted the "Charles Eames Award" to perpetuate the memory of the great genius whose brainchild the Institute is. The award, to be presented every two years, would be given away for the first time in April 1987 — PTI feature.

Civil rights group sees wider gap between rich and poor

By William M. Welch
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. economic and social policies, including decreased domestic spending, have widened a dangerous gap between the affluent and the poor," the head of a major civil rights group said Wednesday (Jan. 14).

The civil rights leader made the comments in a statement issued with the release of the report, "The State of Black America — 1987." Included are chapters by 10 experts describing a "retreat from civil rights," how blacks are affected by the budget deficit and tax reform, black families, black

Faked punt propels NY to Super Bowl triumph

PASADENA, California (AP) — Phil Simms and the New York defence overcame a one-man show by John Elway as the Giants won their first Super Bowl by scoring 30 points in the second half to beat the Denver Broncos 39-20.

Simms, considered the lesser of the two quarterbacks in this game, completed 22 of 25 for 268 yards, including three touchdown passes, and was unanimously voted the most valuable player.

He also set a Super Bowl record with 10 straight completions during New York's second-half tear. His 88 per cent completion rate was an NFL playoff record.

Most of this came after a first half Sunday in which Denver outplayed the heavily favoured Giants, going off with a 10-9 lead that easily could have been 20-7 or 20-9. Early in the second quarter, New York held Denver without a point after the Broncos had a first-and-goal from their 1 and Rich Karlis missed field goals from 24 and 34 yards for Denver, one after that goal-line stand.

So dominant was Elway in that period that he accounted for 200 yards on his own — 187 passing and 13 rushing. That was 13 yards more than Denver's total offence when sacks are figured in. Then came the third quarter, in

yards by Phil McConkey to the Denver 36. Eight plays later, Raul Allegre's 21-yard field goal made it 19-10.

Again Denver went 1-2-3-punt, and again New York scored, going 68 yards in four plays with Joe Morris running over from 1 yard out following a 44-yard flea-flicker pass from Simms to McConkey.

Elvis Patterson intercepted an Elway pass the next time, setting up a 6-yard scoring pass from Simms to McConkey. The ball bounced off right end Mark Bavaro's hands and helmet, right into the hands of McConkey, who did a victory dance and ran off the field with the ball.

New York's second-half surge started innocently enough. Three plays netted 9 yards, and the Giant's punting team ran onto the field to punt from its own 46. Suddenly, the Giants shifted out of punt formation, and Jeff Rutledge, the second-string quarterback, came up behind the centre.

The ball was snapped, and Rutledge stuck for 1 yard and a first down.

Six plays later, Simms hit tight end Mark Bavaro for 13 yards, the Giants led 16-10 and the rout was on.

Denver, which went the entire third quarter without calling a running play, went 1-2-3-punt, and the punt was returned 25

which the Giants outgained the Broncos by 163 yards to 2, scoring 17 points. From the time the Broncos led 10-9 until the Giants led 33-10, Denver was held without a first down, going out 1-2-3-punt on two occasions and Elway threw an interception on the other.

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Exhausted skiers arrive at world championships

CRAINS-MONTANA, Switzerland (AP) — Exhausted skiers travelled overnight from another race to prepare for the opening event of the Alpine World Championships in this Swiss resort. They found the top racer already in town.

A men's combined slalom inaugurates the two-week competition Tuesday.

While most skiers struggled for hours driving from Austria to Crans-Montana, superstar Pimini Zurbriggen and a few teammates exploited perfect Swiss organisation for an easy trip on a combination of helicopter and private plane.

Zurbriggen, who scored his sixth World Cup triumph of the season winning the downhill at Kitzbuehel, Austria, is Switzerland's top hope for golds in

at least three World Championship races here.

The 23-year-old all-rounder from Saas-Almagell showed condition and determination in Sunday's downhill and slalom, held unusually on the same day in the Austrian resort.

In front of 17,000 fans, Webb struck after 25 minutes to give Forest its first victory in nine games, ending a barren, six-week spell that included elimination from both domestic cup competitions.

Everton had hoped Sunday to overtake Arsenal at the top of the First Division. On Saturday, Arsenal was upset 0-2 at Manchester United, its first defeat for 22 games.

But Sunday's result meant Arsenal stayed at the top of the table, two points ahead of Everton and four in front of the other perennial Merseysiders in a downhill Friday.

Zurbriggen is the defending world combined champion. He also won the downhill gold in 1985 Championships held in Bormio, northern Italy, and took silver in giant slalom.

Everton bungles first place bid

NOTTINGHAM, England (AP)

— Neil Webb destroyed Everton's hopes of heading the English First

Division soccer standings for the first time this season as he gave Nottingham Forest a 1-0 victory to the Merseysiders in a

televised game.

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Brazilian soccer enters 3rd round of championship

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Veteran midfielder Socrates scored both goals in Flamengo's 2-0 win over Vitoria on Sunday. Flamengo qualified for the third round of the National Soccer Championship.

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Denver, which went the entire third quarter without calling a running play, went 1-2-3-punt, and the punt was returned 25

yards by Phil McConkey to the Denver 36. Eight plays later, Raul Allegre's 21-yard field goal made it 19-10.

Again Denver went 1-2-3-punt, and again New York scored, going 68 yards in four plays with Joe Morris running over from 1 yard out following a 44-yard flea-flicker pass from Simms to McConkey.

Elvis Patterson intercepted an Elway pass the next time, setting up a 6-yard scoring pass from Simms to McConkey. The ball bounced off right end Mark Bavaro's hands and helmet, right into the hands of McConkey, who did a victory dance and ran off the field with the ball.

New York's second-half surge started innocently enough.

Three plays netted 9 yards, and the Giant's punting team ran onto the field to punt from its own 46. Suddenly, the Giants shifted out of punt formation, and Jeff Rutledge, the second-string quarterback, came up behind the centre.

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Economy

Rowland, Khashoggi exchange accusations over \$50m credit

PARIS (AP) — Saudi Arabian millionaire Adnan Khashoggi, a key figure in the Iran arms deal, alleged Sunday that British businessman Roland Rowland owed him \$50 million and had seized two of his aircraft unjustly.

Mr. Rowland said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press that it was "very sad he is saying these things. He must have gone mad."

Speaking from London, Mr. Rowland said:

"As to my owing him a penny, I rescued him with \$2.5 million a year ago when he was absolutely desperate for cash. This is how he repays me."

Mr. Rowland said the money, lent against a promissory note, constituted the first of Mr. Khashoggi's payments in brokering the U.S. Iran arms deal.

Mr. Khashoggi, he added, was "the last man from whom I would borrow money."

He said he had got courts to seize the contents of Mr. Khashoggi's luxury DC-8 aircraft and of his apartment on Paris' chic avenue Montaigne, along with land in Kenya, against the debt.

Mr. Khashoggi made his allegation in an interview with the French news agency Agence France-Presse or board the DC-8 at Paris Le Bourget Airport.

The airliner was first seized last week by a French court on an application by Mr. Rowland that Mr. Khashoggi had failed to repay the \$2.5 million loan. Another of

Mr. Khashoggi's aircraft, a DC-9, was also seized because it was mortgaged against a \$2 million loan by Mr. Rowland's international conglomerate, Louisphile.

The seizure order on the DC-8 was lifted Friday, French legal sources said, because the court was shown the aircraft belonged to a Cayman Islands company, Handingair Douglas, with capital of three dollars.

But Mr. Rowland's Paris lawyers, Mr. Michel Calve and Mr. Gilbert Claret de Calvo, Claret, Louvet and Riondet, then got a court order seizing the contents of the aircraft, said the sources, who declined to be identified further.

They seized gold and silverware, porcelain, glasses, cutlery and a white sable bedspread" in the aircraft, the sources said, and later, very valuable paintings in his apartment.

Mr. Khashoggi's Paris lawyers are going to court next week to seek recovery of the seized possessions, the sources said. His lawyers claim he does not own or even rent the apartment, and that the paintings belong to a company, the sources added.

Mr. Khashoggi told Agence France-Presse that the story of the debt to Mr. Rowland was "a false problem."

"In fact, it is Mr. Rowland who owes me money. Much more than I owe him: \$50 million. It was

agreed that the \$8 million cheque should be deducted from that sum. In any event, the money is in England."

It was that statement which Mr. Rowland vehemently denied.

"Business is always a succession of ups and downs," Mr. Khashoggi was quoted as saying. "At the moment I am going through a slightly difficult moment in the United States, above all because of investments of my company Triad America in Salt Lake City. But in any event, I have always well separated my different affairs."

Triad was involved in a \$400 million plan to build a shop and office complex in Salt Lake City when financial problems developed and work stopped.

Mr. Khashoggi has said he did not expect to make money brokering the arms deal to Iran for which he said he advanced \$30 to \$35 million to Lake Resources, believed to be controlled by Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North and USAF Maj. Gen. Richard Secord.

Mr. Khashoggi told the French agency that he still owned the Nebula, a luxury yacht, "but it is true that I might sell it to the sultan of Brunei."

Mr. Khashoggi alleged that Mr. Khashoggi has "mortgaged everything he has. It's all locked up."

Bundesbank backs dollar

LONDON (R) — West Germany's Bundesbank bought a modest amount of dollars on European foreign exchange markets Monday and with dealers saying this signalled its readiness to buy more, the U.S. currency jumped against the West German mark.

The dollar rose by 1.6 pfennigs to about 1.8270 marks on surprise news that the West German central bank had bought almost \$23 million to support the U.S. currency at the Frankfurt fix. It slipped to 1.8110 marks prior to the bank's action.

Gold began the week at a London fix of \$405.35 an ounce, up on Friday's close of \$402.75. It fell below \$405 as the dollar strengthened.

The dealers said Bundesbank intervention had an important psychological effect on trading although such buying could only serve as a limited brake if it was not coordinated with further purchases from other banks.

The bank's intervention was not aggressive as it bought only a modest amount at the fix rather than buying heavily in the open market but nevertheless showed West Germany did not want the U.S. currency sliding further, they said.

They saw further buying if the dollar looked set to tumble below 1.81 marks.

European central bankers are concerned that the weakness of the dollar could create further strains within the European Monetary System (EMS) which was realigned on Jan. 12.

Saudi Arabia to mine gold next year

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia will begin commercial extraction of gold ore at a rate of 400 tonnes a day in 1988 when its ancient Maha Ad Dahab mine is reopened, senior Saudi official said Monday.

Sheikh Abdul Razzaq Abu Rashid, deputy governor for mineral resources of the state company Petromin, told the official Saudi Press Agency the ore was expected to yield about 26 grammes a tonne of gold and 90 grammes a tonne of silver.

The mine, 400 kilometres northeast of the Red Sea port of Jeddah, is Arabia's oldest. Modernisation work began in 1983 as part of efforts to supplement oil earnings.

Shallow deposits of gold in the area were last worked in the 1950s, by which time it had yielded more than 20 tonnes of gold in 14 years.

The cost of modernisation work at Maha Ad Dahab (cradle of gold), where geologists have found evidence of tribal gold mining dating back 1,000 years, has been officially estimated at \$119 million.

Studies have indicated it will yield up to 3/4 tonnes of bullion a year using modern techniques.

Sheikh Abu Rashid said Saudi Arabia, whose western region contains more than 80 per cent of its known minerals, had yet to explore and extract phosphates, iron ore, aluminium and copper deposits.

In what economists saw as a cruel twist of fortune, rising oil revenues coincided with the dollar's fall against the West German mark and Japanese yen.

Mr. Richard Stutely, chief economist at Burgen SAK in Kuwait, told Reuters: "Gulf nations will see their current account deficits widen this year unless they cut imports or oil prices rise significantly further."

The current account reflects a nation's trading position. In addition to imports and exports, it

includes invisible transactions on goods and services.

Mr. Stutely said that, given oil prices of \$18 a barrel and present dollar/mark and dollar/yen levels, the 1987 current account deficit of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states could rise by \$2.25 billion to nearly \$24 billion.

Other Gulf Arab states saw surprises shrink or turn into deficits last year as oil prices dropped and other sources of revenue declined due to recession in the Middle East.

For private citizens, the impact of the falling dollar has already been forced home by the rising cost of popular Japanese cars and luxury West German vehicles.

For economic planners, the declining dollar means higher oil revenues are being eroded by higher import costs.

Gulf Arab states had hoped that December's output and price accord by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which has already forced up oil prices, would boost their economies.

But, in what economists saw as a cruel twist of fortune, rising oil revenues coincided with the dollar's fall against the West German mark and Japanese yen.

President Babangida suggested that the association set up joint ventures and a special fund to serve exploration activities.

"Africa is grossly under-explored and our fortunes cannot be left entirely in the hands of the multinationals," he added.

Ministers from eight African states including four members of OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) Nigeria, Libya, Algeria and Gabon were present at the launching.

Non-OPEC members Angola, Cameroun, Benin, Congo were represented by their oil ministers while the Egyptian delegation was led by under secretary in the petroleum ministry, Mr. Hussein Abdallah.

The Home Office said the government's own emergency communications plans might have to be used if the British Telecom network broke down because of the strike.

Such plans could include stationing fire engines and police cars on street corners.

"It is not envisaged that these plans would be used during an industrial dispute," said a ministry spokesman.

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8,000 march on presidential palace after Aquino's approval

MANILA (Agencies) — Last Thursday 15 demonstrators were shot dead when they tried to march on the presidential palace here, but on Monday protesters were greeted on the lawns of the imposing building by cabinet ministers and Carmelite nuns.

More than 8,000 demonstrators chanting Communist slogans, interrupted by shouts of "Cory, Cory," marched peacefully over a bridge near Corazon Aquino's presidential palace to protest against the killing last Thursday by soldiers of the 15 peasant protesters.

In an unexpected move, they were allowed to walk past besides the palace's five-metre steel gates where they were greeted by Mrs. Aquino's staff, cabinet ministers and Carmelite nuns saying the rosary.

A loudspeaker truck in the parade rolled past the palace, declaring, amid cheers from the demonstrators, "Madame Aquino thank you for letting us over the bridge. But remember we had to spill blood to get here."

The rally united some of Mrs. Aquino's closest friends and advisers with her bitterest foes.

A bishop and cabinet ministers walked alongside leftwing militants. Nuns and priests and society matrons walked alongside peasant women. Supporters of deposed strongman Ferdinand Marcos flashed his "V-for-victory" symbol alongside Communists raising clenched fists.

About 2,000 bystanders watched as the protesters crossed Men-

diala Bridge where last week's shooting occurred.

It was there that marines opened fire when 10,000 peasants demanding land reform tried to force their way past barricades and a cordon of about 1,000 police and soldiers. More than 100 people were wounded.

Mrs. Aquino, in an emotional meeting Monday morning with farm and trade union leaders at which she was reported to have been close to tears, Monday lifted her ban on demonstrators crossing Mendiola.

She ordered that the barricades and barbed wire be taken down and that soldiers stay in their barracks.

Among the first to cross the bridge was Farm Union Chief Jaime Tadeo, who declared: "This is victory. This bridge has cost us many lives. This bridge connects Malacanang (the presidential palace) to the people."

He told reporters there was proof that Marcos loyalists had infiltrated both the peasant marchers and soldiers guarding the bridge and boulevard leading to the palace.

Mr. Benigno said there was great concern about who gave the order to shoot.

He told reporters that during a meeting with Mrs. Aquino Monday morning, Tadeo wept and told her, "I assure you Mrs. President they (the peasants) love you."

One person who crossed the bridge — a concrete slab that spans a stagnant storm drain 300 metres from the palace gates — was former Senator Lorenzo Crispin Beltram, a union lead-

er present at the meeting, said that Mrs. Aquino herself was close to tears. He said she wanted to visit the families of those killed but was afraid they would be hostile.

Meanwhile Defence Minister Rafael Ileto accused Communist rebels, Monday of endangering a 60-day cease-fire declared last month to help end the 18-year-old insurgency.

One man held a Time magazine cover showing her as the magazine's "Woman of the Year." Underneath, he had written: "Cory listen to the farmers or this time cover will become a dead fish wrapper."

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He told reporters there was proof that Marcos' loyalists had infiltrated both the peasant marchers and soldiers guarding the bridge and boulevard leading to the palace.

Mr. Benigno said there was great concern about who gave the order to shoot.

He told reporters that during a meeting with Mrs. Aquino Monday morning, Tadeo wept and told her, "I assure you Mrs. President they (the peasants) love you."

Security officials said the gun battle occurred during a raid on a suspected NPA stronghold in San Miguel, Bulacan province, 60 kilometres north east of Manila.

Crispin Beltram, a union lead-

er present at the meeting, said that Mrs. Aquino herself was close to tears. He said she wanted to visit the families of those killed but was afraid they would be hostile.

Meanwhile Defence Minister Rafael Ileto accused Communist rebels, Monday of endangering a 60-day cease-fire declared last month to help end the 18-year-old insurgency.

One man held a Time magazine